Honors English 11 Name_____
Davies - 2015-2016

Hour_____

CLAUSES

A *clause* is a group of words that contains a verb and its subject and is used as part of a sentence.

Kinds of Clauses

Although every clause has a subject and verb, not all clauses complete a complete thought. Those that do are called **independent clauses**. Such clauses could be written as separate sentences. We think of them as clauses when they are joined with one additional clause or more in a single larger sentence.

An **independent** (or main) **clause** expresses a complete thought and can stand by itself.

Each independent clause has its own subject and verb and expresses a complete thought. In this example, the clauses are joined by a comma and the coordinating conjunction *and*. They could also be written with a semicolon between them:

> Ms. Santana works in one of the law offices in downtown Oregon; she has a successful practice.

or as separate sentences:

> Ms. Santana works in one of the law offices in downtown Oregon. She has a successful practice.

A *subordinate* (or dependent) *clause* does not express a complete thought and cannot stand alone.

Subordinate means "lesser in rank or importance." Subordinate clauses are so described because they need an independent clause to complete their meaning.

Subordinate Clauses: before you know it
because I told him
after the show is over

These clauses sound incomplete to our ears because we know the subordinate part they play in the sentences. Notice that the reason they sound incomplete is not that something is missing in the clause. Just the reverse is true, for by omitting the first word we can make each of these subordinate clauses into a complete sentence. Most subordinate clauses are introduced by a word like *when, if, until*, or *because* that makes them subordinate. When we hear a clause that starts with one of these words, we know that there has to be at least one more clause in the sentence, and that at least one of the other clauses must be independent.

Exercise 1

Identifying Independent and Subordinate Clauses: Identify each underlined clause as being either independent or subordinate. Please write the entire word on the line provided.

_____1. When my family sent to New York last summer, we visited the Theodore Roosevelt museum.

_____2. The museum has been established in the house where Roosevelt was born.

_____3. It is located in the basement floor of Roosevelt's birthplace, which is on East Twentieth Street.

_____4. The museum contains books, letters, and documents that pertain to Roosevelt's public life.

_____5. There are mounted heads of animals, a stuffed lion, and zebra skins from the days when Roosevelt was hunting big game in Africa.

_____6. Because Roosevelt was once a cowboy, there are also branding irons and chaps.

_____7. Before Theodore Roosevelt became President, he gained fame in the Spanish-American War.

_____8. During that war he led the Rough Riders, who made the famous charge up San Juan Hill.

_____9. Trophies that Roosevelt received during his life are on exhibit in the museum.

_____10. The Roosevelt Memorial Museum Association, which established the museum, charges a nominal admission fee to visitors.

THE USES OF SUBORDINATE CLAUSES

Subordinate clauses, like phrases, function in sentences as single parts of speech. A subordinate clause can be used as an adjective, an adverb, or a noun, thus enabling us to express ideas that are difficult or impossible to state with single-word nouns and modifiers alone.

An *adjective clause* is a subordinate clause used as an adjective to modify a noun or pronoun.

In the following sentences the arrow points to the noun or pronoun that each adjective clause modifies.

This is the new music video <u>that I like best</u>.

Griffins, <u>which are mythological beasts</u>, are seen on many coats of arms.

The adjective clause follows the word it modifies, and it is sometimes set off by commas and sometimes not. Commas should be used unless the clause answers the question *Which one?* in which case no commas are used.

Relative Pronouns

Adjective clauses are generally introduced by ***relative pronouns***. The relative pronouns are *who, whom, whose, which*, and *that.* They are called relative because they relate the adjective clause to the word that the clause modifies. Remember that the noun to which a pronoun refers is the antecedent of the pronoun. The noun or pronoun modified by the adjective clause, then, is the antecedent of the relative pronoun that introduces the clause. Besides introducing the adjective clause, the relative pronoun has a function in the clause.

Examples Lois, **who enjoys running**, has decided to enter the marathon. [The relative pronoun *who* relates the adjective clause to *Lois*. *Who* is used as the subject of the adjective clause.]

Donna suggested the science project **that I exhibited at the fair**. [*Project*, The word that the clause modifies, is the antecedent of the relative pronoun *that*. The pronoun is used as the direct object in the adjective clause.]

The students questioned the data **on which the theory was based**. [The relative pronoun *which* is the object of the preposition *on* and relates the adjective clause to the pronouns antecedent, *data.*]

Frequently the relative pronoun in the clause will be omitted. The pronoun is understood and will still have a function in the clause.

Example Here is the cheeseburger **you ordered**. [The relative pronoun *that* is understood. The pronoun relates the adjective clause to cheeseburger and is used as the direct object in the adjective clause.]

Occasionally an adjective clause will be introduced by the words *where* or *when*.

Examples They showed us the stadium **where the game would be held**.

Summer is the season **when I feel happiest**.

Exercise 2
Identifying Adjective Clauses: Underline the adjective clauses once in the following sentences. Underline the relative pronoun that introduces the clause twice. Circle the antecedent of the relative pronoun.

Example The students who published the yearbook felt proud.

1. The people who tape television commercials are called production workers.

2. At the aquarium we saw some frogs that are highly poisonous.

3. John Keats, who was one of the most promising of English poets, died in Rome.

4. The theater where we saw the movie is being renovated.

5. Is this the police officer whose quick thinking saved so many lives?

6. Lord Byron is the poet, who was called "the most interesting personality in history."

7. The young Byron attended a university that would not let him keep his dog in his rooms.

8. Byron had a rebellious nature that often got him into trouble, but he also had quite a sense of humor.

9. He deliberately acquired a pet for which the university had no rules.

10. Soon the authorities had to decide how to deal with a young poet who kept a tame bear in his rooms.

An *adverb clause* is a subordinate clause that modifies a verb, an adjective, or and adverb.

An adverb clause tells *how, when, where, why, how much, to what extent*, or *under what condition* the action of the main verb takes place.

Examples **After I had proofread my paper**, I typed it. [The adverb clause *After I had proofread my paper* tells when I typed it.]

Because manicotti takes so long to prepare, Joy makes it only on special occasions. [*Because manicotti takes so long to prepare* tells why Joy makes it only on special occasions.]

You may come with us **if you want to**. [*If you want to* tells under what condition you may come with us.]

The adverb clauses in the examples above modify verbs. Adverb clauses may also modify adjectives or adverbs.

Examples His pitching arm is stronger today **than it ever was**. [The adverb clause modifies the adjective *stronger*, telling us to what extent his arm is stronger.]

My cousin Adele reads faster **than I do**. [The adverb clause modifies the adverb *faster*, telling how much faster my cousin Adele reads.]

Subordinating Conjunctions

Adverb clauses are introduced by ***subordinating conjunctions***. Become familiar with these words.

after	before	unless
although	if	until
as	in order that	when
as if	since	whenever
as long as	so that	where
as soon as	than	wherever
because	though	while

Note: Remember that *after, before, since, until*, and *as* may also be used as prepositions.

Exercise 3
Identifying and Classifying Adverb Clauses: In the following sentences underline the adverb clauses once. Circle the subordinating conjunction and then write what the clause tells: *when, where, how, why, how much, under what condition*. (A sentence may have more than one adverb clause. Remember that introductory adverb clauses are usually set off by commas.)

1. If you have never read any of Robert Frost's poetry, you might like to read about him first.

2. Robert Frost and his family moved to New England when Frost was ten years old.

3. While Frost was growing up, he held many different jobs.

4. After he had taught awhile, he attended Harvard University.

5. Frost decided to move to England after he had studied at Harvard for two years.

6. While Frost was in England, he published two books of poetry.

7. After the public in England had read his poetry, they acclaimed Frost as a great poet.

8. When Frost returned to the United States, he continued writing poetry.

9. Though Frost describes New England landscapes in his poems, the meanings of the poems themselves are much deeper.

10. You might like to keep some of Frost's books of poetry so that you will have them when you want them.

Exercise 4
Writing Sentences with Adverb Clauses: Write ten original sentences of your own using the following subordinate clauses as adverbs.

1. if you read Emily Dickinson's poetry

_____

2. although he liked pizza

_____

3. whenever we play our cds

_____

4. while she was studying for her history exam

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5. after your sister finishes her tennis game

---

6. so that you can mail it

---

7. as if he wanted to say something

---

8. if the dog digs under the fence

---

9. when you get home from school

---

10. unless my mother says otherwise

A *noun clause* is a subordinate clause used as a noun.

A noun clause may be used as a subject, a complement (predicate nominative, direct object, indirect object), or the object of a preposition.

Nouns	Noun Clauses
Subject: Her **action** was brave.	**What she did** was brave.
Predicate nominative: The winner will be the fastest. **runner**.	The winner will be **whoever runs fastest**.
Direct object: She learned the **answer**.	She learned **what the answer was.**
Indirect object: We tell each **caller** the sale prices.	We tell **whoever calls** the sale prices.
Object of preposition: He checks the ID's of **visitors**.	He checks the ID's of **whoever visits**.

Noun clauses are usually introduced by *that, what, whatever, who, whoever, whom* and *whomever.*

Examples They did not know **who it could be**. [The introductory word *who* is the predicate nominative of the noun clause – *it could be who*.]

Show us **what you brought**. [The introductory word *what* is the direct object of the noun clause – *you brought what*.]

She wished **that she were older**. [The introductory word *that* has no other function in the sentence.]

Like adjective clauses, noun clauses are sometimes used without the introductory word. Compare the noun clauses in the following sentences:

His mother said **that he could go**.
His mother said **he could go**. [The introductory word *that* is understood.]

Exercise 5
Identifying and Classifying Noun Clauses: Underline the noun clause in each sentence. Then identify how the noun clause is used*: subject, predicate nominative, direct object, indirect object*, or object of a preposition.

1. We moved to New England and did not know what we would find there.

2. What surprised me first were the yellowish green fire engines.

3. I had thought that fire engines were always red.

4. Our new neighbors explained that the unusual color kept the fire engines from being confused with other large red trucks.

5. My sister Patti was surprised by what she saw at the bowling alley.

6. The small grapefruit-sized bowling balls with no holes were not what she was used to!

7. Whoever can knock down the pins with one of those bowling balls must be an expert.

8. We learned that this sport is called "candlepin bowling."

9. I was pleasantly surprised by the delicious New England ice cream.

10. They should give an award to whoever invented New England ice cream.

SENTENCES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO STRUCTURE

Classified according to structure, there are four kinds of sentences: *simple, compound, complex,* and *compound-complex.*

A *simple sentence* has one independent clause and no subordinate clauses. It has only one subject and one verb, although both may be compound.

Examples Several states have elected women to public office.

In 1953, Oveta Culp Hobby was named Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, a newly created Cabinet post.

American women have held positions of responsible political leadership in the development of our nation.

A *compound sentence* has two or more independent clauses but no subordinate clauses.

Examples President Franklin Roosevelt appointed Frances Perkins Secretary of Labor in 1933; since then, several other women have been Cabinet members.

In 1977 President Carter appointed Patricia Roberts Harris Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and thus the United States had its first African-American woman Cabinet member.

Amanda loved the sound of the orchestra at her school's winter concert, and she decided to study the violin.

A *complex sentence* has one independent clause and *at least* one subordinate clause.

Examples As we study the history of our government, we become aware that many women have been appointed or elected to high government positions.

Martha Layne Collins of Kentucky was the third woman governor who did not follow her husband into office.

In 1984 presidential campaign, Geraldine Ferraro became the first woman who was nominated vice-presidential candidate for a major party.
When students have mastered the basics and can actually create music with this stubborn instrument, they have reason to be proud.

A *compound-complex* sentence contains two or more independent clauses and *at least* one subordinate clause.

Examples President Ronald Reagan, who was elected in 1980, appointed three women to key posts; these were Elizabeth Dole, Secretary of Transportation; Margaret Heckler, Secretary of Health and Human Services; and Jeane J. Kirkpatrick, Ambassador to the United Nations.

We know that women will continue to hold high positions in government, but when will a woman win the presidency?

Amanda did not always enjoy the many hours of practice, but they were necessary because the instrument is so complicated.

Playing with others adds another dimension, and the excitement of concerts and recitals is something that these young musicians might want to experience.

Review

Identifying and Classifying Subordinate Clauses: Underline the subordinate clauses in each of the following sentences. Identify the clause as adjective, adverb, or noun. If the clause is used as an adjective or adverb, write the word it modifies. If the clause is used as a noun, write subject, direct object, indirect object, predicate nominative, or object of the preposition.

Examples The Sun also Rises is the first full-length novel <u>that Ernest Hemingway wrote</u>. **adjective – novel**

Our teacher asked us <u>what authors we liked best</u>**. noun – direct object**

1. Do you know that our history test is next week?
2. John and I studied the chapter that our teacher had assigned us.
3. I read George Orwell's *1984*, which was on the best-seller list last week.
4. As soon as we get to the park, we should have lunch.
5. The ship on which we are sailing is eighty feet long.
6. I do not know what happened.
7. Congress can send the bill to the President after both houses have passed it.
8. My old house looked smaller than I had remembered it.

9. Everyone helped to bake the bread that Marc delivered to the fair.

10. My friend met Russell Baker, who is the writer for *The New York Times*, and she asked him for his autograph.

Classifying Sentences According to Structure: Classify each of the following sentences according to its structure. Be sure that you can identify all subordinate and independent clauses.

Example When the judges announced the winners, Paul and Carol stood up and cheered. **complex**

11. Marcia was the treasurer of her class last year; this year she is president.

12. Since my brother bought his calculator, he has mad fewer mistakes in his monthly checking statement.

13. The author is touring several cities to promote his book; he will be in Chicago at the end of October.

14. I have read many books by John Steinbeck, but my favorite is *The Grapes of Wrath.*

15. Do you know the date of our math exam?

16. After school the three of us went to the park and played basketball.

17. In 1776 the members of Congress signed the Declaration of Independence, in which the colonies declared their freedom from Britain.

18. John exhibited his science project at the fair, and he won first prize.

19. The doctor whom I see is my friend's grandfather.

20. The flowers that I planted last spring are now in bloom.

21. Would you please pay for that dress now so that we can leave this store?

22. We know that the restaurant is open on Sunday, but is it open now?

23. If the DVD is damaged, you may return it for another.

24. Mrs. Thompson knows that the show starts at eight o'clock, and she will be on time.

25. Please see your guidance counselor if you do not know what courses you should take.

Writing a Variety of Sentence Structures: Write your own sentences according to the following guidelines.

1. A simple sentence with a compound verb

2. A complex sentence with an adjective clause

3. A compound-complex sentence

4. A compound sentence with two independent clauses joined by the conjunction *but*

5. A complex sentence with a noun clause used as a subject

6. A simple sentence with a compound subject

7. A complex sentence with an adverb clause placed at the end of the sentence

8. A complex sentence with a noun clause used as a direct object

9. A compound sentence with two independent clauses joined by the conjunction or

10. A complex sentence with a noun clause used as an object of a preposition.

(Source Used: Warriner's English Grammar and Composition: Third Course)